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BMC opens two job skills training centres for women

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BHUBANESWAR: The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) on Monday launched two Employment through Skills Training and Placement (ESTP) centres at Raghunathpur and Semeiguda here.

It is a component of the National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM), a scheme to uplift urban poor.

BMC sources said four batches of women will be imparted training in garment making by government-empanelled private agencies at these centres. "Around 80 women will receive 460 hours of training, which will include skills for improving marketing knowledge. The women selected for the training are BPL and Antoyada Yojana beneficiaries," said BMC spokesperson Srimanta Mishra.

The State Urban Development Agency had identified 3,000 poor women to undergo training in different phases. The BMC have been provided the list of the beneficiaries to be attached to different private agencies imparting the training.

Besides garment making, the agencies will also provide training in computer, driving, food processing, tailoring, mobile handset repair, leather work, applique and candle making.

"There are more than 40 private agencies authorized by the government to provide the training," Mishra said. Since it is a placement-linked training, the agencies will facilitate jobs for the trainees, he added.

The Centre scrapped Swarna Jayanti Sahar Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY), which was also meant for skill development of the urban poor and introduced NULM.

Under NULM, the civic body has expedited construction of Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH). Earlier the Supreme Court had asked all states to make provisions of shelters for the homeless in urban areas.

According to the SC guideline, there should be a shelter per one lakh population. While Bhubaneswar already has two SUHs, four more are being planned at Ashok Nagar, Ganga Nagar, Baramunda and Old Town.